

Section 17-4-3 Backflow Prevention

- A. [Required]. Backflow prevention shall be required at every user service connection if the town determines the potable water supplied by the public potable water system may be subject to contamination, pollution or other deterioration of quality by conditions within the user's water system. The town may refuse service unless backflow prevention measures as required by the town are installed on the user's water system in order to prevent contamination to the town's water system from the user's water system.

- B. Definitions. For the purpose of this section 17-4-3, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

"Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly." An assembly of the size and type approved by the water resources department, because of inventory requirements, repair practices and tool requirements, that has been manufactured in full conformance with the American Works Association Standards for reduced pressure principle assembly devices, as modified from time to time, and have met completely the laboratory and field performance specifications of the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California as exist from time to time and, where on a fire system, have Underwriters Laboratory and factory mutual approval, or as otherwise described, limited or provided for in section 17-7-8.

"Backflow." The reversal of flow of water or mixture of water and other liquids, gases or other substances into municipal distribution pipes or the potable supply of municipal water.

"Cross-Connection." A cross-connection as defined in section 104-M of the Uniform Plumbing Code as amended and as adopted by the town from time to time.

- C. Termination of Potable Water Service. Water service to any premises connected to the town public water distribution system shall be terminated, following notice by the town as provided in section 17-1-7(C) upon the water resources department determining that either of the following conditions exists at the premises.

1. An unprotected cross-connection exists on the premises; or
2. An approved backflow prevention assembly has not been installed as required in section 17-4-3, is not working properly, has been altered, removed or bypassed or is found to otherwise require the disconnection of the premises from a town water distribution system by the certified inspector provided for in section 17-4-3(E).
3. Water service shall not be resumed at such premises until the water resources department determines in its sole discretion that the conditions have been corrected to the satisfaction of the town.

- D. Installation of and Responsibilities for Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies.

1. All existing, new or replacement service connections to a town water distribution system with the exception of single-family residential units, shall be fitted with backflow prevention assemblies, hereinafter referred to as assemblies. Assemblies shall be installed and continuously maintained at the customer's expense to prevent the entry of any substance whatsoever into the public water system, whether by backpressure (overpressure) on the customer side of the meter or by reduced pressure (vacuum) on the public side. These assemblies shall be maintained in the manner provided in section 17-4-3(D)(2) below.

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The town will maintain, at the town's expense, all assemblies owned by the town. Maintenance of additional assemblies or other devices on the customer's side of the meter box, be it for containment (water system protection), or for isolation (irrigation systems, fire systems, water softeners, and the like) shall remain the sole responsibility of the water customer. Presence of an assembly in a service connection shall not modify or reduce any other requirement of the currently adopted *Uniform Plumbing Code*.

- E. Inspections. All connections to a town water distribution system and assemblies which are required by applicable federal, state or local regulation to be tested or inspected at least annually shall be tested or inspected by the property owner or consumer at least once in each calendar year. If connections to the town water distribution system or assemblies are not properly maintained and could pose a hazard to the town water distribution system, such connections or assemblies shall be subject to more frequent inspections. Notice of the date and approximate time of inspection by the town will be provided to the property owner or consumer a minimum of three (3) business days in advance unless an emergency exists or a threat to public health in which case no advance notice will be provided by the town.
1. The inspections required under this section shall be conducted to determine whether cross-connection or other sanitary hazards or violations of this article or other provisions of this chapter exist. Such inspections shall be carried out by a person who is currently certified as a general tester by the American Backflow Prevention Association.
 2. In the case where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it will be impossible or impractical to make a complete in-plant inspection, the town potable water distribution system shall be protected by an air-gap approved by the water resources department.
 3. In the case where, because of the complexity of the piping system serving the premises, it will be difficult or impractical to make a complete inspection or to ascertain whether any cross-connections exist which affect the public water distribution system, an air-gap or reduced pressure principle assembly shall be used.
 4. The town shall maintain records on the certification status of all assemblies and will notify the owner in writing if an assembly is due for a recertification test.
 5. If the inspection or testing reveals the assembly or the method of backflow protection to be defective or in unsatisfactory operating condition or otherwise in a nonpermitted condition under this article, the tester shall notify the consumer and the town in writing. Any necessary repairs, including replacement or overhaul of the assembly, if necessary, which will return the assembly to satisfactory operating condition shall be performed by the consumer, other than for a single-family residence, within ten (10) days, at the consumer's expense. After completion of repairs, the property owner shall have the assembly retested and provide the test and repair results to the water resources department within a reasonable time period, not to exceed ten (10) days.
 - a. It shall be the duty of the person doing the repair, replacement or overhaul to notify the town water resources department verbally or in writing that said work is completed. Such notification shall be given not less than twenty-four (24) hours before the work is to be inspected and shall be given only if there is reason to believe that the work will meet current University of Southern California Standards as referenced in the Manual of Cross-Connection Control.
 - b. The consumer shall maintain records, on forms approved by the water resources department, of the results of all tests, services, repairs, overhauls or

replacements of assemblies or permitted methods of backflow prevention. A copy of the records shall also be provided to and kept on file by the water resources department after completion of the activity for which the record was made until destruction thereof can be made in accordance with the town's record retention policy.

F. Assembly Installation.

1. An assembly shall be installed on the consumer side and adjacent to the meter. Where construction or equipment location presents siting problems for the assembly, a location variance may be granted by the town through its water resources department, provided such request is made in writing and approval is granted prior to the installation of the assembly; in all cases the assembly must be installed before the first branch line leading off the service line. The type of assembly required regardless of the degree of hazard shall be an approved reduced pressure principal backflow prevention assembly, other than for a single-family residence or approved fire protection.
 - a. Contamination. In the case of any premises where any condition, device, practice or material may create an actual or potential Introduction of water or substance into a town water distribution system which would be hazardous to the public health, the town's system shall be protected by an approved air-gap separation or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly at the service connection to the premises.
 - b. Plumbing. In the case of any premises where there are conditions as described in section 17-4-3(F)(1)(a), above, either actual or potential, the public water system shall be protected by an approved air-gap method or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly at the service connection.
 - c. Auxiliary water supply. In the case of any premises where there is an auxiliary water supply, whether or not directly connected with the town water distribution system, the town water distribution system shall be protected by an approved air-gap method or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly.
 - d. Pollution. In the case of any premises where there is a water or substance that would constitute a nuisance or be aesthetically objectionable but not hazardous to the public health if introduced into the public potable water distribution system, the town water distribution system shall be protected by an approved reduced pressure principal backflow assembly.
2. Assemblies and methods shall be installed by the consumer, at the consumer's expense, other than for single-family residence.
3. Installation permits for the installation of all assemblies or methods required by the town for other than single-family residences shall be obtained from the building safety department prior to installation. A separate permit shall be obtained for each assembly or methods to be installed, including replacement.
4. It shall be the duty of the person doing the work authorized by the permit to notify the town water resources department in writing that said work is ready for inspection. Such notification shall be given not less than twenty-four (24) hours before the work is to be inspected and shall be given only if there is reason to believe that the work done will meet current Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of

the University of Southern California University Standards, as referred to in the Manual of Cross-Connection Control.

5. The town will maintain a list of backflow prevention assemblies by type and manufacturer. The list shall be available to any consumer required to install a backflow prevention assembly.
- G. Fees. In order to defray the town's costs in establishing, supervising and implementing the policies, inspections and the terms and conditions contained in this section 17-4-3, a monthly fee shall be charged to each consumer, except for single-family residential, connected into a town water distribution system. One re-inspection per assembly or method of backflow prevention per calendar year will be included in the monthly fee. In the event more than one inspection is required for the assembly to pass the town's requirements, a fee for each additional inspection shall be added to the consumer's next monthly water usage billing. All fees that may be charged pursuant to this section 17-4-3(G) shall be established by resolution of town council.
- H. Exceptions. No bypassing of required assemblies or methods of backflow prevention shall be allowed under any circumstances excepting fire emergency. Wherever an uninterrupted water supply is required, multiple assemblies mounted for parallel flow shall be required. Temporary or construction service connections shall meet the same backflow prevention requirements as permanent connections.

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